## Message Text

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**ACTION EUR-12** 

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 L-02 CIAE-00

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R 131841Z MAY 75 FM AMEMBASSY PARIS TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9341 INFO USMISSION NATO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, MARR, MPOL, FR

SUBJECT: US-SOVIET INCIDENTS AT SEA DISCUSSIONS

- 1. WE UNDERSTAND THAT SOVIET DELEGATION WILL MEET WITH US DELEGATION IN WASHINGTON STARTING MAY 19 FOR EIGHT-DAY DISCUSSION OF "INCIDENTS AT SEA." FRENCH -- AND PERHAPS OTHER NATO ALLIES -- WILL BE INTERESTED IN THE DETAILS OF THESE DISCUSSIONS. IN THE CASE OF THE FRENCH, THE RE-DEPLOYMENT OF TWO AIRCRAFT CARRIERS FROM BRITTANY TO THE MEDITERRANEAN AS WELL AS THE PLANNED MOVEMENT OF OTHER FRENCH VESSELS TO MEDITERRANEAN HOME PORTS SUGGEST THAT THE FRENCH NAVY IS LIKELY IN THE FUTURE TO BE IN MORE FREQUENT CONTACT WITH SOVIETS IN THE CONFINED SPACE OF THE MEDITERRANEAN BASIN. CONSEQUENTLY, WE EXPECT GOF WILL BE INCREASINGLY INTERESTED IN THE APPROACH TAKEN BY THE US AND SOVIET NAVIES TO SUBJECTS SUCH AS AGREED "RULES OF THE ROAD" ON THE HIGH SEAS AND PARTICULARLY IN THE MEDITERRANEAN.
- 2. RECOMMENDATION: WE RECOMMEND THAT THE U.S. PROVIDE EARLY AND DETAILED BRIEFING TO THE NATO ALLIES -- INCLUDING THE FRENCH -- CONCERNING THE SUBSTANCE OF THESE LATEST US/USSR "INCIDENTS AT SEA" DISCUSSIONS.
  AS COLLATERAL BENEFIT, THIS SORT OF NATO CONSULTATION LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WOULD HELP DEFUZE POTENTIALAPPEARENCEOF "SUPERPOWER

CONDOMINIUM" THAT SOME MIGHT READ INTO THESE US/SOVIET DISCUSSIONS. RUSH	
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## Message Attributes

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TAGS: PFOR, MARR, MPOL, FR, US, UK, XI, XG To: STATE

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